

Fishing License Requirements:

- You must purchase a license if you are 17 years of age or older. **If you are under 17, you may fish without a license, but you are required to observe all fishing rules and regulations.**
- When fishing, you must carry your license and the identification used to purchase that license and exhibit both upon demand of a Michigan Conservation Officer, a Tribal Conservation Officer or any law enforcement officer.
- Your fishing license is valid from March 1 of a given year through March 31 of the following year.

To purchase a fishing license, you must have:

- A valid Michigan Driver License.
- A valid Michigan ID Card (issued by the Secretary of State) with additional proof of Michigan residency, such as a Michigan voter registration card.
- A DNR Sportcard (issued by license dealers). If the information on your DNR Sportcard from a previous year is still accurate, you may continue to use it.

To qualify for a resident fishing license, you must:

- Be a person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state, or
- Be a full-time student at a Michigan college or university, or
- Serve full time in the U.S. Military and be officially stationed in Michigan.

The ownership of land in Michigan by itself is not qualification for a resident license.

The following special provisions exist:

Residents serving in the Armed Forces: Persons serving in the U.S. Military, who, at the time of enlistment, were residents of Michigan and have maintained residence status for the purposes of obtaining a driver license or voting and who are stationed outside the state, may purchase a resident all-species license for \$1. Applicants must present proof of military status and leave papers when applying for the discounted licenses. This license, available at DNR Operations Service Centers (see p.31) and at license retail outlets statewide, is valid for up to two weeks during an open season. The license buyer can designate the exact fishing period.

Residents who are blind or disabled: A resident who is declared legally blind or a resident who has been determined by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled and entitled to veteran benefits at the 100% rate (with proof of same) is eligible to purchase ANY of the senior fishing licenses.

Mentally disabled persons and residents of a home for the aged (licensed under the Public Health Code) may fish without a license if they are a member of a group, and accompanied by one or more licensed adults who possess a permit issued by the DNR. Permits are available at DNR Operations Service Centers (see p.31).